

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

"EXCESS XS"

by

Kevin Fegan

Commissioned and produced by Contact Theatre Manchester 1992

(c) Kevin Fegan

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"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

CAST: 3 female & 3 male playing multiple roles except for Byron. The show includes a D.J. mixing live

LIST OF CHARACTERS

Byron - personification of Ecstasy

Adam

Diva

Orbit

Liberty

Shine

CHORUS is played by the cast except for Byron

Bouncer

Arthur

Arthur's wife

Arthur's son

Politician

Newsvendor

Mother

Headteacher

Hippie

Gary the Gob

Taxi Driver

Snarler 1

Cheetham Hill Snarler 1

Cheetham Hill Snarler 2

Moss Side Snarler

Policeman 1

Policeman 2

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Terminator

Faceless Man

Page 3 girl

Woman

Customer 1

Customer 2

Customer 3

Joe Smythe

Gerry

Dominique

Jacques

Football fan 1

Football fan 2

Gary the Gob's girlfriend

Raver

Artist

Inmate

Mother

Daughter 1

Father

Daughter 2

Doctor

Therapist

Judge

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

MUSIC: CONGAS

CHORUS

The human heart is a drum

beat pump beat pump beat pump beat pump

youth is a stimulant

beat beat pump beat beat pump

beat beat pump beat beat pump

the human heart is a drum

beat pump beat pump beat pump beat pump

youth is a stimulant

beat beat pump beat beat pump

beat beat pump beat beat pump

youth youth pump youth youth pump

youth youth pump youth youth pump

youth is a stimulant.

This is not intelligent

this is sensational

BYRON IS CURLED UP IN THE SHAPE OF THE LETTER

Here is the letter "E"

E is not intelligent

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

E is sensational

E is unfurled by the chorus

BYRON

I am coiled like a snake called excess

pull my tail watch me unwind

all eyes and ears wide

open to having a good time

D.J. BRINGS IN DRUM MACHINE

CHORUS

Excess xs pump excess xs pump

excess xs pump excess xs pump

electro explosion

excitement energy enjoy

excitement energy enjoy

expression existence essence

expression existence essence

electro explosion

excess xs pump excess xs pump

BYRON

E is for every - one

every - where

every - thing

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

 excess xs pump excess xs pump

TAKE OUT DRUM MACHINE AND CONGAS

E is for entrance e is for exit

this is the door that's how it works

free to enter emergency exit

let's take e for a walk

let's take e for a walk.

E GOES THROUGH THE DOOR

BYRON Madchester Manchester beautifully obscene

 the Whitworth Street corridor

 the Haight-Ashbury of the rave scene

 music and dancing love and sex

 from Paradise Wharf to G-Mex

 you can buy it sell it

 study it smoke it

 watch it play it

 eat it drink it

 drop it dance it

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

live it dream it

CHORUS

Rave -ssh pass it on

where? rave - ssh pass it on

when? rave - ssh pass it on

BYRON

Don't tell everyone

they'll all want to come.

BYRON SELECTS AND OUTFIT AS IT JOURNEYS ALONG
WHITWORTH STREET

Ascending into the virtual reality

of a weekend ritual

a place for the mind to behave like a body

I feel virtually real

CHORUS

Feel feel virtually real

virtually virtually real

a weekend ritual

DIVA

No matter how much money

I'll ever have to spend

I'll never be as happy

as I am at the weekend.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Hello I'm Diva I live to rave

it's like an orgasm without sex

I'm on one because I think it's fun

I use e's because I love them

sometimes I take my fella sometimes I don't

with lads you have to moderate the dose

they're always wanting to get their dicks out

I prefer to dance me

my boyfriend used to be a lager lout

'til I slipped him an e

he'd always have to stop the car on the way back

to piss up the side of someone's stone-cladding

well you don't want to touch

it after that do you?

it's not just that he uses

the same piece for pissing

I mean we're no different

it's when he insists

you witness his little show

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and he'd just have to kick in

some posh shop front selling

cars he could never afford.

I used to think it was the football

E

Sensually right-on supporters of City and United

ambassadors departing from any of three stations

evangelical in their enthusiasm to deliver

their football-with-attitude mission

FANS

Oh we're all blissed-up

and we're gonna win the cup!

ADAM

This is how it works: Friday night at Steve's

skin up first then a line of speed

down the town meet up with Diva

drop a tab l.s.d.

dance through the night doing an e

six o'clock back to Steve's

skin up if we're playing at home

try and get some sleep

down the match here we go

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

line of speed on the terrace

"Let's all have a disco!"

back home wash and change

down to Steve's to start again

Sunday's lounging skinning up

have a shag if I can get it up

coming down for Monday morning

weekdays begin with "b" for boring

BYRON

On the steps of the Cornerhouse

mixing with the somebodies

and the wannabees

ignoring the crusties

with their begging bowls and big black dogs

is the media cocktail

NEWSVENDOR

"Satanic sons of smiley

drug-crazed acid house horror

evils of ecstasy

speed kids lured to Holland

ban this killer music

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

free heroin for vice girls

acid fiends spike Page 3 girl's drink

get right off one matey!"

BYRON

Fresh from a G-Mex exhibition

an advocate for free-trade politician

POLITICIAN

Drugs are bad for you

just say no

BYRON

The drugs service worker, Shine,

in her new flat in Paradise Wharf

dealing with her waste-disposal appliance

in a caring-services sort of way

SHINE

In the drugs business

this city has a worldwide reputation

it's a shame they made it illegal I say

one e is worth two years of therapy

BYRON

Family man Arthur on his way to the hire shop

for a rotorvator to dig up his garden plot

for a lovely barbeque patio

ARTHUR

I shopped my lad to the police straight away

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and I'd do it again. I told him none

of that funny stuff in my house.

I'm just calling in the Bulls Head for one

the missus'll never know

BYRON

The bouncer, chemistry degree,

prides himself on a dickiebow

like a spirit level, has a healthy

interest in property

BOUNCER

I'm on the door

I have to know the score

I won't have no dealing in this club

unless I'm on a cut for my trouble

BYRON

Cruising through the showroom of classic cars,

Gary the Gob and his fellow snarlers

GARY THE GOB

Here y'are mate I'll have the black BMW tinted windows electric

tinted glass and I want a specially designed gun-pocket hidden

in the bucket of the leather seat right? I talk in straight prose

cause I'm a mean mother-fucker, none of this rhyming bullshit. I

have good taste me, my favourite movie is "Scarface"

SNARLER 1

Wait a minute, you rhymed

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

GARY THE GOB I did not, you take that back mother-fucker or I'll waste you

SNARLER 1 You're doing it again you rhymed "scarface" with "taste" -
part-rhyme maybe but still rhyme and then you said "waste"
and that's a full-rhyme with "taste"

GARY THE GOB It was an accident it won't happen again. I'm a Salford scally,
no Manchester street rapper caught in the rai...bad weather

BYRON Policeman oozing power
nearly as tall as The Refuge Tower

POLICEMAN They must think we're fucking daft
with their brand new BMW's.
I know for a fact those boys are unemployed,
it's the blatant cheek of it all
that really gets my gall

E'S OUTFIT IS COMPLETE

BYRON You know, I must be real good company
if all these people are so interested in me.
Do you like the Laserquest outfit?
E is for epic.
I think I'll hang around for a while.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Let's see, I need a name that evokes a certain
stylised recklessness? I know, "Byron",
I'll call myself Byron
who gave us the cult of youth,
a need for the haircut and the clothes,
the music and the pose,
where everyone aspires to be young,
which neatly divides us into wrinklies
and fun-lovers,
with our face-packs and skin-creams
hair-gels and magazines
facelifts, bar weights
carbohydrates, slim waists
aerobics and clubs
cosmetics and drugs,
until every city and town
becomes a playground for the young
where e is for economy
given over to excess

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

where youth equals money

a serious business

and e is for the end

the end of the century party

let's party let's party

by invitation only

you're just in time

for the end of the century party

CHORUS

House party!

CHORUS SHAPE THEMSELVES INTO A HOUSE. LASER

LIGHTS AND HOUSE MUSIC

CHORUS

We built a house

house house

a house of sounds

house house

a house of lights

house house

on Whitworth Street

house house

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

a warehouse

house house

for industrial dance

house house

to bring people back to the city

to bring the city back to life

AT THE RAVE BYRON IS SUCKING A LOLLIPOP

BYRON Adam!

ADAM Byron!

THEY EMBRACE

BYRON Love the t-shirt matey

ADAM Yeah did it myself last night

BYRON Red blue and green,
the primary colours of light

ADAM Yeah well you've got to be seen

ORBIT Where the fuck are we, man?

BYRON Don't you recognise it?

This is bliss.

(TO ADAM) Your mate looks a real raver

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

what's he on?

ADAM

Baked beans at the moment, Byron,

he's not been out before,

we met up after the match,

bit of a dickhead is Orbit

but alrighty for a Leeds supporter,

well e is for England and all that

ORBIT

I can't stand this music

it doesn't make sense

BYRON SLIPS HIM A TABLET

BYRON

Here you go matey, try this,

guaranteed to make white men dance

ORBIT

What is it?

BYRON

Love dove,

it's a sort of pilot's licence,

you know, permission to fly

ORBIT

Great, I love aeroplanes

BYRON

That's a tenner to you

seeing as how you're his mate

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ORBIT LOOKS TO ADAM FOR ADVICE

ADAM Grab it cheap at the price

ORBIT I'll give it a try

ORBIT SWALLOWS THE TAB AND HANDS OVER A
TENNER

BYRON I'll be back in about half-an-hour,

by then he'll be wanting clearance

for take-off from the control tower

ELSEWHERE AT THE RAVE DIVA HAS GOT THE DRINKS IN

DIVA Here y'are, Liberty,

Ribena for you and Lucozade for me

LIBERTY Nice one, Diva,

what do I owe you?

DIVA It doesn't matter

you can get the lollipops later

LIBERTY But these little bottles are a quid a throw

DIVA I cover my costs for weekends

LIBERTY I don't know how you dare

DIVA Just enough to look after my own needs

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and a few friends.

I'm not greedy, Liberty

LIBERTY I am.

Now you've got me an e

can you sort me out with a fella?

I need a man,

who's that with your Adam?

DIVA You're men and drugs mad

LIBERTY What else is there?

DIVA You shouldn't need drugs to stay

awake all night dancing, not at your age

LIBERTY I know, but it makes you feel great

THEY LAUGH AND HUG

The fella's for later,

you know, exercising the groin

DIVA Adam's mate's not on one so what's the point?

LIBERTY He doesn't realise it yet but he's very uptight,

I think people like that should be forced to try it

DIVA Hey, MC Byron

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and his serious dance vibes

LIBERTY

Ask him about the new guy?

BYRON OFFERS DIVA A LOLLIPOP

It's no good, Diva, it's got to stop.

Some friendly advice:

the moment you're tempted by serious talk

suck on a lollipop

THEY EMBRACE

DIVA

You working tonight?

BYRON

Turbo tunes to numb your mind,

I expect to see you in the lights?

DIVA

I'll be there.

Is your friend all right?

ORBIT

(TO ADAM) It's not fair

nothing's happening,

fifteen quid to get in

and ten quid for a junior aspirin,

I've been ripped off.

Where's your mate?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Wait till I collar him

ADAM (TO BYRON) Engine's running, he's talking faster

BYRON Smoke coming from his trainers

ORBIT I'm supposed to be having a good time,
where's the clock? where are the signs?

My teeth feel locked,

phew, it's hot in here, I need a drink,

my tongue's hanging

like a plug in the kitchen sink.

Normally I'm very calm, not easily riled

but if I see your mate, I'll tell him,

I'll say, I'll say (THE E KICKS IN) - wild!

Woe! Concorde to control tower,

ready for lift off

MUSIC

BYRON Easiest dance in the world,

requires no expertise,

you don't even have to move your feet,

just jog from the knees

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ORBIT Irresistible

BYRON All clear?

ORBIT Hey who moved the ground?

BYRON Release the hands,

here, wear these white gloves

ORBIT PUTS THEM ON AND DANCES WITH HIS HANDS

ORBIT Look, love doves

BYRON Alrighty, deflect the light,

feel the force

ORBIT Wondrous, I can dance

and the music makes sense

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

excess xs pump excess xs pump

OORBIT Hey, I'm a pilot

BYRON TAKES OVER AS DJ

BYRON Massive MC Byron bringing you $e=mc^2$,

turning a mass of people into energy.

Welcome to the machine,

it's virtual reality time

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

CHORUS Feel feel virtually real

BYRON Hello brain,

I've been tampering with your synapses again,

think of it as anger or lust,

just another chemical change

in the cerebral cortex

to achieve a few special effects,

to snuff your ego like a candle flame

and become all eyes and ears

through light and sound,

music loud enough for you

not to have to hear yourself think,

light as a pigment of your imagination,

the frequency determines its colour,

the fluorescence of the rave generation

DIVA Motorway service station?

CHORUS Alrighty!

ADAM Chill out time

CHORUS Taxi!

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ORBIT I'll fly

THEY SQUASH INTO A TAXI TOGETHER

ADAM (TO DIVA ABOUT ORBIT)

Why is it when you sweat you smell

like peaches and cream

and he smells like yesterday's wet dream?

ORBIT This taxi feels really fucking ambient

TAXI DRIVER What do you mean, I had it cleaned recently?

LIBERTY AND ORBIT ARE ALL OVER EACH OTHER

Hey, get your feet down,

would you do that at home?

DIVA Probably, if she knew where you lived

ORBIT Something's not right,

I think my bladder's about to call in the bailiffs

TAXI DRIVER If your mate's gonna be sick

ADAM There's no music,

that's what it is,

here y'are mate, play this

TAXI DRIVER STOPS SUDDENLY

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

TAXI DRIVER Everybody out!

THEY EXIT THE TAXI

LIBERTY Where are we?

ORBIT A service station - wow!

ADAM Fuck me - reality

DIVA I'm not hungry

LIBERTY Me neither

ORBIT Nor me

IN THE CANTEEN

(TALKING TO A BOWL OF FRUIT)

I'll have an e please, Bob,

I said I'll have - what is it again?

DIVA Methylenedioxymethamphetamine

ORBIT On toast

LIBERTY Make that two

ORBIT And I'd like to pay in hard ECU's please

DIVA You're talking to the fruit,

it can't answer back, it's plastic

ADAM Which motorway are we on?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

DIVA

M62

(ORDERING) Four milky teas

THEY SIT

ADAM

What's the use of coming down

when I'm only going to get high again?

DIVA

Think of it as gravity

LIBERTY

Did you ever see the film?

DIVA

Gravity?

LIBERTY

No, "Ecstasy", X-rated,

lot of fuss about nothing

DIVA

You can say that again

ADAM

Which service station on the M62?

LIBERTY

Heddy Lamarr, naked

ORBIT

How do you know when you're naked?

DIVA

You've got no clothes on silly

ORBIT

But how do you really know?

ORBIT

I'd feel naked without my moustache

LIBERTY

Then naked you'll have to be,

I can't kiss that, I'm vegetarian

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ORBIT Don't be a barbarian, it's been around

a long time has that handlebar

DIVA So have electric guitars

but they've had their day

ADAM Which station?

DIVA Hartshead

ADAM Aargh! Leeds United territory,

I hate fucking Leeds

ORBIT E is for England, matey

ADAM E is for enemy

DIVA I'll rub some Vic on his neck,

he'll rise above it in a sec,

everybody back to mine, boys

CHORUS Convoy!

MUSIC. DIVA AND ADAM IN ONE VEHICLE, ORBIT AND
LIBERTY IN ANOTHER. FLASHBACK TO 1989

DIVA It was 1989,

two o'clock in the morning on the sleepy M65

to Blackburn, hundreds of cars

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

sounding their horns at lorry-drivers,

police helicopter buzzing overhead

at "convoy aceed".

ADAM GIVES THE HELICOPTER THE FINGER, TO THE
CHEERS OF THE OTHERS

There were roadblocks on roundabouts

but nothing could stop us now,

ten thousand people partying in a warehouse

in my home town that night,

hundreds of riot police with batons and shields

and the party was smashed,

sounds systems wrecked heads, broken,

but we knew by then this spirit would last

MUSIC BUILDS TO A CRASH. THEY FALL INTO A HEAP AT
DIVA'S FLAT

DIVA Somebody has to go to the shop

ADAM Not me, my motor neurons are fucked, I can't walk

DIVA Drug-hog,

you shouldn't have dropped that last tab

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ADAM Dope come in two doses:

too much and not enough

ORBIT They don't make drugs like they used to

DIVA Hark at you

ORBIT They don't have the same effect

ORBIT AND LIBERTY CUDDLE

ADAM What if we were to inject?

DIVA No way, you're out of my team

if I ever catch you with works, matey,

I'm not living with a bloody junkie

LIBERTY I wouldn't like to swim in his bloodstream

DIVA Bingeing don't make it taste

better, it makes you sick and wastes

money you haven't got to spend

LIBERTY The lost weekend

ADAM I feel like my eyes have laid eggs,

like Buddha himself has been round for tea

and eaten all the strawberry jelly

DIVA Look at them pair:

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

the S.P.G. could burst through the door

and they'd probably comment

on how cute their uniforms were

ADAM Pass the temazzies

DIVA There's not a pill for every ill, you know

ADAM I need some fags,

how am I gonna get to sleep?

DIVA Come to bed with me

ADAM Oh no, she needs a shag

DIVA You know how I get after an e

ADAM I thought we'd agreed

sex is for during the week

DIVA E is not for erection, is that it?

ADAM I'm off to the supermarket

DIVA Buy me some passion fruit,

it's the nearest I'll get

AT THE SUPERMARKET

ADAM Supermarket: from bad to worse,

let's get sorted,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

I need a plan, I need to rehearse,
through the door,
take a basket,
shit where are the baskets?
What if there are no baskets
and I have to take a trolley?
Crisis time, don't throw a wobbly,
I'll leave,
shit, I can't exit through the entrance -
I've got to make it
all the way 'round to the checkout,
stay cool, the baskets are by the checkout,
fruit, identify the fruit, listen to the fruit -
fuck off pineapple, pineapples can't talk,
I'll choose which of you guys to buy,
stop hustling me, will you?
my skin's peeling into the prunes,
aargh, my face is melting,
where am I, Whitworth Street?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

but there are no supermarkets on Whitworth Street?

BYRON

Adam your head's full of concrete,

it's nearly Monday, man, time

to get your shit together

ADAM

You're right, I'll fetch the can-opener

ADAM LEAVES

BYRON

Can-opener?

OUTSIDE THE CORNERHOUSE

NEWSVENDOR

"Lid taken off Manchester drug ring; passengers on

Manchester's new Metrolink have fallen prey to wicked dealers

in a rising drugs problem said to have reached epidemic

proportions; an evil drugs baron, known as The Terminator, has
been luring young girls into a life of hedonism and crime."

TERMINATOR APPEARS

BYRON

Boo! Boo!

NEWSVENDOR

"Pretty Page 3 girl, Lucy -

LUCY APPEARS

BYRON

Hurrah! Hurrah!

NEWSVENDOR

became a victim of the evil Terminator. Lucy, aged seventeen,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

was travelling alone one night on the "magic roundabout", as the Met has become known, when she was approached by a faceless man, thought to be working for the brutal Terminator."

FACELESS MAN APPEARS

BYRON Look behind you, Lucy!

NEWSVENDOR "The man offered her a sweetie which turned out to be a tablet of the mind-altering substance known as ecstasy."

BYRON TAKES A BOW

NEWSVENDOR "Unfortunately, Lucy ate the sweetie before undercover policeman, Joe Smythe, or "Smiley" to his friends."

JOE SMYTHE APPEARS, WEARING A T-SHIRT WITH A SMILEY BREAKFAST CEREAL BOWL AND THE WORDS "SMACK CRACK AND POT" UNDERNEATH. FACELESS MAN AND TERMINATOR RETREAT, DISAPPOINTED. TERMINATOR CRACKS FACELESS MAN AROUND THE HEAD FOR FAILING.

BYRON Hurrah! Hurrah!

NEWSVENDOR "Lucy is eternally grateful to Smiley for saving her from what would almost certainly have been a life of exploitation, so that she could return to her work at "The Sun" newspaper."

SMILEY Come back lager-louts, all is forgiven

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

IN THE PUB

ARTHUR Lager? That's not a man's drink,
pint of best bitter

BYRON Arthur, king of the beer-monsters
at the "Bulls Head"

NEWSVENDOR "Sixteen people now dead
from illegal use of ecstasy."

EXIT NEWSVENDOR

BYRON Last year 10,000 people
died from legal use of alcohol,
100,000 from tobacco

ARTHUR There's more talent in here than a Texan "soap",
I like a few pints and a good old leer
when it's busy and I'm pissed,
I can usually slip in a crafty grope,
as long as I'm not with the missus

HOSPITAL RECEPTION. DIVA ANSWERS THE PHONE

DIVA Good afternoon, Hospital Reception,
how may I help you?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

BYRON Diva, daughter of a born-in-hospital,

die-in-hospital generation,

working in hospital, surrounded by millions

of drugs, strictly non-recreational,

such a waste

AT THE PUB A WOMAN ENTERS

ARTHUR On your own love? Sit here,

I've got the charm if you've got the good taste,

let me buy you a drink

WOMAN I'll buy my own, thanks,

orange and lemonade, please

ARTHUR You'll need something stronger than that

if you're sitting with me

BYRON Alcohol consumption among young people

dropped by one-fifth at the end of eighties

AT THE DRUGS SERVICE

SHINE I'm Shine, personal valet for lazy junkies,

hello, what do you need today?

Needle exchange, Methadone script,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

or counselling about your next court case?

(ASIDE) I'm bored shitless with opiates,

they've all been pensioned off with scripts,

they used to be a serious threat

in the days before HIV,

then the politicians realised

POLITICIAN

God it's not just stealing our tv's

any more, if these people fuck our daughters,

we'll all get AIDS.

Put a ring around areas of high unemployment,

confine them to their estates,

throw condoms at them, give them free

needles, whatever it takes

to enclose them in the opiate bubble,

to keep our children safe

AT HOSPITAL

DIVA

(ON PHONE) Yes, your G.P. will issue you

with repeat prescriptions

BYRON

Twenty-five million scripts a year,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

all shapes and sizes,

one-in-ten men and one-in-five women

take minor tranquilisers

IN THE PUB

ARTHUR THRUSTS HIS GROIN TOWARDS THE WOMAN

ARTHUR That's better, now there's only a foot between us

WOMAN I'd say more like a few inches

WOMAN EXITS

ARTHUR Slag

AT DRUGS SERVICE

SHINE I want in on the dance drugs,

the excitement of the rave scene,

more stimulating outreach work

with ecstasy lsd and amphetamines,

give me recreational users,

I don't want clients any more, I want consumers

BYRON What we have here are clearly three

drug-dependency units or adult drug clubs:

the hospital, the drugs service agency and the pub

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ARTHUR I said to the police, lock him up,

teach him a lesson, he's no son of mine

until he's learned to have a good time

without drugs. Where do they get it from, eh?

It wasn't like this in my day,

I blame the teachers,

letting them get their own way

AT THE DRUGS SERVICE A DISTRAUGHT MOTHER

MOTHER I don't know what to do,

I'm at my wits' end,

the Head-teacher has suspended her

HEAD We've the good name of the school to consider,

there are no staff trained for this sort of job,

anyway, we don't accept there is a problem,

the grammar school made that mistake,

you've only got to look at this year's intake

MOTHER I've searched her bedroom

but I don't know what I'm looking for.

What does Isd look like?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Is cannabis addictive?

What does e stand for?

How much is it?

Will she be sent to prison?

I need to know

MOTHER LEAVES DRUGS SERVICE AND GOES TO
HOSPITAL. IN THE PUB.

ARTHUR

I blame the police,

they let him off with a warning, they should

come down harder on criminals,

I had to make a personal sacrifice

for the greater common good

POLICEMAN

Cannabis possession?

We'd have to pull in a tenth of the population,

even the Home Office advice is to caution

users of soft drugs, otherwise we'd have no time

for real criminals. Well I'm sure

you wouldn't want to live next door

to a dealer, would you?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

AT HOSPITAL

DIVA No, maybe not next door

MOTHER ARRIVES

MOTHER I took her to the hospital first

DIVA You have to fill in this form

MOTHER Bollocks to your bloody forms, I cursed,
my daughter needs help

DIVA Look, I'm not qualified to say this
but I've spoken to your daughter,
she's taken a little acid - lsd

MOTHER She must be insane

DIVA I know for a fact she's in no danger,
I'll get a doctor.
For a while she'll be a little strange,
take her home sit with her until it's over,
reassure her, keep her safe, she'll be all right,
if you need advice and information -

MOTHER RETURNS TO DRUGS SERVICE

MOTHER She said to come and see your organisation

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

SHINE

You're not alone,
our youngest known consumer of lsd
is nine years old,
our youngest dealer is twelve,
he knows how to make ecstasy

BYRON

There are casualties,
even I have to admit,
it's increasingly difficult to tell
the good stuff from the shit
but it's about time we grew up a bit,
face the fact that we all do
recreational drugs, we've all got habits,
some legal some not, the world spins
on like a catherine wheel,
why is it such a big deal?
Pain and pleasure go together
like youth and spots,
we take risks for pleasure all the time,
from sex to rock-climbing,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

risk is actually part of the fun
and part of the human condition

MUSIC

BYRON

Hand-in-hand

the adults do the dance

the dance of ignorance

CHORUS

Excess xs pump excess xs pump

excess xs pump excess xs pump

exercise exercise

- it's rather like an aerobics class

explanation explanation

- I can't understand the words

entertainment entertainment

- it's very loud

endurance endurance

- this is a very long song isn't it?

escape escape

- the smoke is hurting my eyes

excuse excuse

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

- it's way past bedtime

exhaustion exhaustion

- that's enough now, I'm tired

e by gum, e by gum

will get you through the night

THEY COLLAPSE

BYRON

While the adults are dizzy with ignorance,

the market place of youth is busy busy,

the economy of excess is e for enterprise

ADAM AND ORBIT ARE WORKING DOOR-TO-DOOR,

TRYING TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE WEEKEND. AT THE

FIRST DOOR.

ADAM

Excuse me, we're in your area

offering a mobile grinding service -

scissors, secateurs, kitchen knives

CUSTOMER 1

Sorry, I'm a catholic

DOOR SLAMS SHUT. THEY MOVE ON TO THE NEXT DOOR

ADAM

My I.D. card,

we are in your area -

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

CUSTOMER 2 I haven't got a tv, I swear,

the aerial is for, er, the birds

DOOR SLAMS SHUT. AT NEXT DOOR.

ORBIT (TO ADAM) Bloody amateurs

(TO CUSTOMER 3)

Glad tidings we bring

about our mobile -

CUSTOMER 3 Come back nearer Christmas

and next time, try singing

DOOR SLAMS SHUT. NEXT DOOR

ADAM Mobile grinding service -

scissors, secateurs -

GARY THE GOB (TAKING OUT HIS MACHETE) Knives? This is my favourite -

quality ivory handle,

blade shaped like a candle flame,

flickering blue steel in a blood-red sun,

ideal for slashing this one,

rather than the straight stab,

needs to be sharpened after every use,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

See how blunt it is? Treat it with respect.

HE HANDS OVER THE KNIFE

ORBIT (TO ADAM)

How come all the mad bastards live on this street?

ADAM Ssshh, do you want to make it to the weekend?

THEY SHARPEN THE KNIFE

There you are, my friend,

sharper than a musketeer's codpiece,

that's a pound please

GARY THE GOB Are you sure you want to charge me,

you'd only have to sharpen it again?

ADAM Well, er, let's call it quits, shall we?

GARY THE GOB (TO AUDIENCE)

I was there when the first e's

arrived at the station at Piccadilly,

a small parcel of two hundred freebies

to see if the snarlers wanted to buy,

I was just getting into house music,

doing a bit of whizz and strawberries

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

but I wasn't expecting this.

I dropped one that night and there I am

holding on to the bannister

as it comes on, you know the feeling

that you've just got to dance?

Well, I'm resisting,

I can't dance, not in front of my mates,

not when you rely on your front as a Face,

then the guy who brought the e's says

"For God's sake, let go of the bannister"

So I did, I woke up eighteen months later,

no alcohol, just e's and dancing villains,

we were all touched, that's when

we started running illegal raves,

true it was a way of raising cash,

that goes without saying but for some of us

it was also a driving passion,

there's nothing quite like the sensation

of bolt-cropping your way into a warehouse

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and sorting thousands of ravers with their e's

so you can all share a night of mad-house,

when the atmosphere is so charged

it could light your cigarette.

I wanted everyone to try it -

we spiked an entire pub once,

cost me a small fortune but it was kicking

to see the landlord hug his locals

and the landlady search for a six-foot chicken

DOOR SLAMS SHUT

ORBIT That's it, I'm going home

ADAM Just one more, come on,

I've a feeling we'll score

with this next one

ORBIT You go ahead,

grinding is obviously all the rage

ADAM What about the rave?

We've no money for the weekend

ORBIT We could stay in for a change.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

A man shouldn't have to humiliate

himself for a few spends

ADAM

Stay in? What does that mean?

AT THE NEXT DOOR.

My friend and I are both on an E.T. scam -

er, scheme -

SIXTIES HIPPIE APPEARS, WEARING PINK SUNGLASSES

AND A BOWL OF FRUIT ON HIS HEAD

ORBIT

What the fuck is that?

HIPPIE

E.T.? What's that man? E-trip?

ADAM

Listen, it talks our language

HIPPIE

If you want a spliff

you'll have to come in,

I don't go outside, man,

too many bad vibes

THEY GO INSIDE

ORBIT

Wow, this freak's got more drugs than Boots -

look, he's got more e's than Bob Holness.

I'll have an e please, Bob

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ADAM What's with the fancy dress, matey?

HIPPIE What dress, man?

ADAM The sunglasses and the fruit?

HIPPIE Oh yeah, I forgot about them,

I wear them every time I get stoned, man.

I'm working on the principle that one day

I'll be able to put on the glasses and the hat

and I'll be stoned straight away

ORBIT And just how long have you

been testing these theories?

HIPPIE Oh, about twenty-five years

ORBIT How come you don't have to go begging like us?

HIPPIE If you use and you're skint man,

it's smart to do a little business

and earn from your modest interests

ORBIT Do you need an apprentice?

HIPPIE Strictly sole trader, man,

besides I only deal in draw

ORBIT So what's with the drugs store?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

HIPPIE Personal consumption, man

ADAM That is some habit you've got there

HIPPIE Yeah, I need my stash of gear,

hibernation mentality

ADAM For how long?

HIPPIE Oh, about twelve months a year

ORBIT What about these e's?

HIPPIE You'll have to see him next door -

Gary the Gob

ADAM Not the one with the - ?

HIPPIE He's sound enough, really.

The knife is an outward manifestation

of an inward imbalance in karma

due to the worship of money

ORBIT MAKES TO LEAVE

ADAM Where are you going?

ORBIT To see a man about a karma

EXIT ADAM AND HIPPIE

Enterprise Allowance - government scheme

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

for the unemployed - I got it sussed,
told them I was setting up in business
selling second-hand cars -
well, it's all dealing, innit?
£1000 from the Princes Trust -
good old Charlie, he loves a scam

ENTER GARY THE GOB

GARY THE GOB We all have to think of our families,
royalty has always understood loyalty.
I never do any dealing direct,
the lads from the estate make sure the risk
doesn't hang around my neck

ORBIT Fifty e's for five hundred notes,
retail £15 each should net me £250 gross,
fiver for a tab of acid
or a sideline of speed for a tenner,
temazzies 50p, all good little earners,
vitamin pills for the rozzers
and to rip off Southerners

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and students - common practice,

almost a Northern sport

EXIT ORBIT.

GARY THE GOB IS JOINED BY MOSS SIDE SNARLER,

CHEETHAM HILL SNARLER, POLICEMAN 1 POLICEMAN 2

AND BYRON

GARY

Gary the Gob, just doing my job. I don't feel bad about selling drugs 'cause I don't ask people to buy them. If you're too young, you'll be told to go away and if you're pregnant, you'll be cursed and sent away. Otherwise, I'm a service for the consumer.

POLICEMAN 1

"PIS, that's what we give a shit about - Possession with Intent to Supply. Faces, that's what we're really after. PIS-Faces, that's where the promotion is.

BYRON

The police and the snarlers,

twin enemies of dedicated ravers

the world over, fun-fuckers

totally without rhyme,

totally caught up in the business of crime

M.S.SNARLER

I can make a £1000 a day, man. Moss Side - drugs capital of

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

the North. White guys launder their money in scrapyards and that sort of thing, houses in Bollington next to the Bank Manager - places where black people are not exactly welcome, places where blacks don't want to live. Not Niggers- With- Attitude. Not I.

POLICEMAN 2 What the Police Federation fears most is a disaster on a grand scale. One of these rave things will get out of control and thousands will be killed.

C.H.SNARLER When they re-housed us in Cheetham Hill, we had to forget Moss Side, man. Hillbillies, they call us, living in the outback. Now we're back on the scene, we're in the top five.

POLICEMAN 1 The fucking health care these druggies receive, while my old dear's waiting for a hip operation. No wonder some of us are tempted into bribes for having to mix with this scum.

M.S.SNARLER We stick to the clubs and expensive lifestyles. Coat made at Blacks, tailored with a natty little gun-pocket in the lining and new trainers every time I go out - only white boys wear dirty trainers.

C.H.SNARLER We're organised into ranks, you get me? We got oozies. You wanna gun? I can get you a brand new hand-gun £50, still in its greasy brown paper. You have to carry a piece now, man.

POLICEMAN 2 Our mission is to take out as many dealers as possible and reduce the number of drugs on the street. Operation Popeye in

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Moss Side led to an increase in shootings but we can't give up
can we?

GARY

Drugs is the economy 'round here. I'm not going to slave like
my old man to die in his first year of retirement. I'm a Salford
scally with good grafting skills. This is our business, you know
what I mean?

EXIT SNARLERS AND POLICE

BYRON

And every business needs its consumers, right?

Where are you, my ripening satsumas?

ENTER DIVA, LIBERTY AND BOUNCER AT THE DOOR OF
THE CLUB

BOUNCER

Right ladies, off with shoes and socks

LIBERTY

We're not wearing socks

DIVA

And I am not taking off my tights.

(ASIDE) It's where I stash my mind-altering insights

BOUNCER LETS THEM ENTER

BOUNCER

It's a rigmarole:

we play the game, do as we're told,

but when they made me they broke the mould.

I love this job, me,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Head of Security.

There's something about the seedy challenge

of searching the punters,

taxing the dealers

and mixing with the snarlers,

I socialise with them all.

Way I see it, well, it's like chemistry:

I mix the ingredients for an explosion,

making sure I'm the only one

who understands the equation.

I'm not really in it for the money,

I like to be in control.

A lot of bouncers are in somebody's pocket,

not me, I'm into the rigmarole

ENTER ORBIT

ORBIT

Is there anyone sorting out inside?

BOUNCER

Room for one more - 50% cut.

If you try and tax anyone,

I'll confiscate the lot,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

if you're caught by plain-clothes,

I've never met you before

and stay off the dance-floor

ORBIT GOES IN. SHINE ENTERS.

SHINE How much is it to get in?

BOUNCER I can tell you straight away she's new

(TO SHINE) A tenner for you, love -

first time is it?

SHINE That obvious?

BOUNCER Gets a bit tedious

when there's too many younger ones,

I prefer the mature type.

I could mind your door, day or night

SHINE No thanks, I prefer my Alsatian

BOUNCER Whatever turns you on

EXIT BOUNCER. INSIDE THE CLUB.

BYRON (HIP-HOP)

The baseball cap,

the McDonalds of fashion,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

worn the world over

for no good reason,

peak tilted back

like a player striking out

or forward like a fast-food

merchant on the checkout,

back-to-front like a contract welder

or slightly off-balance like an all-night raver,

is it Yanky imperialism

or Northern humour

that makes the baseball cap

the badge of the consumer?

CHORUS

Dance for the present

dance for the future,

the call of the rave

is the dance of the consumer,

the dance of the consumer,

spend spend spend

make it in the week

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

blow it all at the weekend.

Ravers of the world

have you heard the rumour?

they're looking for sponsors

for the dance of the consumer

spend spend spend

make it in the week

blow it all at the weekend

day-glow pendants, secret signs

guarantees you'll have a good time,

t-shirts at prices you can afford,

designer labels colour-coded

SHINE

(SHOWING OFF HER T-SHIRT)

"Born in the North, ripped off in the North"

I quite like that as a Southerner,

well, you've got to laugh

as a natural consumer

CHORUS

Dance for the present

dance for the future

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

the call of the rave

is the dance of the consumer

DIVA

The bastards have turned off the water

in the bogs, I'm going to complain

ADAM

I swear, if I sweat any more

I'll turn into a fucking rain-cloud

DIVA

Where are we supposed to chill out?

ORBIT

White ones, pink ones, yellow and red ones,

brown ones, lilac ones - are you on one?

SHINE

Actually no, but I would like to be.

(ASIDE) I've left the drugs agency,

I was offered this research post, PhD

into recreational drug use,

so I've got to have a good time

to fully understand the subject,

at least that's my excuse,

well, ask yourself how would Robert de Niro

prepare for a play about ecstasy?

ORBIT

Fifteen quid and you're sorted lady

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

SHINE I'll give you ten

ORBIT Here y'are then.

Some people just don't appreciate

this is what I do for a living.

She's not a regular?

Could be police?

Student, at the very least?

She can a vitamin tab, that'll confuse her,

well, it's not as if she can complain,

her fault for driving a hard bargain

CHORUS Dance of the consumer

spend spend spend

make it in the week

blow it all at the weekend

DIVA What the fuck's going on with the water?

BOUNCER Nothing to do with me,

it's this new outfit running the bar

DIVA Who the hell do they think they are

selling bottles of water a quid a throw?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

Is this what we paid for,

that's what I want to know?

Somebody's gonna collapse

in here from dehydration

BOUNCER

It's a bit of a delicate situation,

you see, Cheetham Hill control the bar

DIVA

Fuck that, I'm on to the next station

CHORUS

No one is immune

from the dance of the consumer

LIBERTY

What do you think you're doing?

ORBIT

Working

LIBERTY

We're supposed to be on a night out?

ORBIT

I'll be with you when I've done

LIBERTY

You used to be such good fun

ORBIT

Do you need me to sort you out?

LIBERTY

I'd rather buy from Diva,

at least she hasn't lost the spirit of e

ORBIT

And who do you think supplies Diva?

Let's get one thing clear,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

I want more out of this than paying the rent,

I want a proper holiday this year

LIBERTY My holiday is the weekend

BYRON Massive M.C.Byron bringing

you $E=mc^2$, turning

a mass of people into energy,

welcome to the machine

it's virtual reality time

CHORUS Feel feel virtually real

BYRON It's the total holiday experience,

hypnotising the whole of Whitworth Street

with the Balearic beat of Ibiza,

you can be top mates for the night

in the reoccurring dream,

let the music take control,

surrender to the machine

SHINE I think I've been ripped off

BYRON It's all part of being on holiday love.

Look at it this way,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

where else apart from the gay clubs

could you dance all night without hassle?

SHINE I suppose so

BYRON Let me introduce you to a few people on the scene

SHINE More my age group, you mean?

BYRON Contrary to popular belief

it didn't just start in the warehouses of Blackburn,

let's face it, the gay scene has always been

one long rave so it comes as no surprise

when gays, who know how to party

meet blacks, who know how to dance

in the underground clubs of Chicago.

They work the music and build house,

when the house moves to Ibiza and decadence

takes hold, you have the great British holiday

CLUB BECOMES IBIZA

GERRY So the idea was to design a party

to search for new ways into the bloodstream:

all the boys shoved an e up their arses

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and all the girls up their fannies,
well, you should have seen them mincing
their way to paradise

DOMINIQUE One should always aspire to be creative

in one's recreational vices

JACQUES Silk underwear, I swear by it

DOMINIQUE I placed a tab of acid on each eye,

it gave me wonderful insights

for twenty four hours

BYRON AND SHINE APPROACH

GERRY Byron, you old epicurean,

where have you been?

BYRON This is Gerry - tv producer,

sniffs Italian red peppers

and smokes banana peels,

Gerry is good research material for you.

Gerry, meet Shine, she's writing a paper

on recreational drug use

DOMINIQUE Dominique - advertising

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

SHINE Quite a pedigree

GERRY More glamorous than its recent history,

 e was developed during the Great War

 to suppress the appetites of famished soldiers

BYRON e is for evolution

DOMINIQUES God bless the armies,

 they've given society two great inventions:

 good quality sleeping-bags

 and a regular supply of new drugs

JACQUES Are you keeping this one

 all to yourself Byron?

BYRON Jacques - designer,

 watch out for her, Shine,

 she hides behind rudeness

JACQUES A good designer always hides behind

 her models like the D.J. his tunes

SHINE You wouldn't catch me on a cat-walk

JACQUES No not in that t-shirt dear

 and make-up is not a good idea

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

when you are planning to sweat like belly pork

BYRON

Jacques thinks she has a monopoly on style.

She could be so witty if she wasn't so juvenile.

JACQUES

There is something you should know

about Byron, he wears people like clothes,

sometimes for warmth, sometimes for show

BYRON

Celebrity, that's the name of the game

JACQUES

Time is the cuckold of fame:

it's not the authors but the art that remains

and ultimately, in the great scheme of things,

we are simply between ice-ages,

which buries even the trees

and erases all human scratches

and scrawls on immortality

BYRON

e is for earth bathing in the sun,

in the life of our solar system

the earth is still young

SHINE

And I suppose youth is all that matters?

BYRON

"If thou regrett'st thy youth, why live?"

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

SHINE Who said that?

BYRON Lord Byron, in his very last poem

SHINE Live fast die young

BYRON That's what it's all about, Shine,

the need to party

at the end of the century,

the spirit of our times,

don't you see?

It's fucking great to be alive

ADAM APPEARS WITH A CHORUS OF FOOTBAL FANS

ADAM&FANS Oh we're all blissed up

and we're gonna win the cup!

Have you heard the news across the nation,

from the stadiums to the service stations?

The coaches are speeding, the terraces tripping,

cause the fans are using their feet for dancing

BYRON At Heysel Stadium, in '85,

innocent people and football died.

Supporters hung their heads in shame

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

at the war masquerading as the beautiful game.

Music put the kick back into our feet

when we found the score to that Balearic beat

THEY PLAY FOOTBALL WITH A BALLOON AND DANCE

In Holland, in 1991,

30,000 fans were on one

as United won the Cup Winners Cup

and football became a carnival drug.

Now violence has dropped by as much as a third

and raves are organised by inter-city firms

ADAM & FANS

The coaches are speeding, the terraces tripping,

cause the fans are using their feet for dancing

ADAM SCORES A GOAL

ADAM

Yes, fucking choon!

ONE OF THE FANS BURSTS THE BALLOON

ADAM

Hey man, you burst my balloon

BYRON

Slip him an e,

the drugs are wearing off too quickly,

he's turning back into a hooligan

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ADAM&FANS e is for England!

Oh we're all blissed up

and we're gonna win the cup!

EXIT ADAM AND FANS

BOUNCER If this ecstasy really is the new love drug,

why is there no snogging and groping?

In my day, as I remember it,

the raison d'etre for the entire evening

was to squeeze just one tit,

these chicks come here, undressed

to kill and rolling around up to their chests

in crazy foam, with more erogenous zones

than a traffic warden on heat

ENTER GARY THE GOB WITH GIRLFRIEND

Now here's a gent who know how to treat

his woman and come out on top -

Gary the Gob. good to see you, matey.

You're not taking the beautiful lady

in there, are you?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

There's a place down the road,

sophisticated, new, you know -

GARY Out of my face dickiebow

BOUNCER Cheetham Hill are on the bar

GARY I don't give a bishop's toss who they are,

we're thirsty, aren't we love?

GIRLFRIEND STRAIGHTENS BOUNCER'S DICKIEBOW AND

THEY GO IN

BOUNCER I am not waiting around to see who is boss

EXIT BOUNCER

IN THE CLUB CHEETHAM HILL SNARLERS OBERVE GARY

AND HIS GIRLFRIEND

BYRON Now this could be great sport

GARY A bottle of champagne and two long straws.

Life is one long holiday with me, kid,

anything goes

GIRLFRIEND The bubbles are going right up my nose

BYRON Foam party time!

I want to see some serious beach gear,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

strip to those bare essentials,

let's go crazy mad in here,

the thrill of a lifetime

GARY I want a plate of sandwiches.

I said, I want a plate of sandwiches

C.H. SNARLER 1 What are you trying to say?

GARY Just having a quiet drink with the lady.

We want some food

C.H.SNARLER 2 I'm sure we can accommodate you

AS THEY REACH FOR THEIR WEAPONS, THE POLICE
ARRIVE AND THEY ARE FORCED TO RAISE THEIR HANDS
IN THE AIR.

BYRON Let's see those hands raised high in the air,

reach for the lights, we're all in this together

CHORUS Dance for the present

dance for the future

the call of the rave

is the dance of the consumer

BYRON HOLDS ALOFT A GIANT INFLATABLE FRUIT

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

BYRON This is the e-conomy,

 inflating society,

 bursting into the next century

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

 excess xs pump excess xs pump

BYRON This is primitive, this is voodoo,

 this is tribal, this is human

BYRON FIRES THE INFLATABLE INTO THE AUDIENCE TO
SIGNIFY THE INTERVAL

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

 excess xs pump excess xs pump

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING AND DANCE MUSIC

BYRON

Now this is what i call a rave

of the elements. massive MC Byron,

three-deck terrorist of the Technics,

firing four quarter beats

at 125 beats per minute,

sampling genuine break-beats from the sky,

strobe sheet lightning, laser fork lightning,

so where is everybody?

Why isn't everyone rain dancing?

This is a purge of a storm, enlightening

what we otherwise would never see.

Here is cause for celebration,

we should follow it around the country

in convoys, swopping sightings and stories

and wondering, just wondering at its glory

ARTHUR'S HOUSE. HE IS WATCHING TV. HIS WIFE

ENTERS, SHAKING HER BROLLY, SHE TAKED OFF HER

MAC.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

WIFE It's awful out there, Arthur.

ARTHUR I know, and I've just washed the bloody car.

Close the curtains and get the kettle on

SHE TURNS DOWN THE VOLUME ON THE TV

WIFE Arthur, it's very loud

SON Mum, I'm just nipping out.

ARTHUR Don't turn it down,

I can't hear anything with that bloody storm

WIFE (TO SON) In this weather? You'll get wet

ARTHUR Ask him where he's going?

SON Taking the dog for a walk

ARTHUR Tell him, as long as that's all he's taking,

he's been warned

WIFE Take a torch, love, it's very dark

SON LEAVES. THUNDER AND LIGHTNING BUILD AS THE
MUSIC SPEEDS UP.

BYRON MC Byron kicking up a storm

at 130 beats per minute and counting.

(TO SON) You don't need permission to dance,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

it doesn't need to make sense,
don't worry, you're not alone,
this is aboriginal,
our hairy ancestors reach through time to you,
they know this beat, they know this storm,
we stomp under the same moon,
we dance out of our common senses,
we dance into our common trance,
135 beat per minute and counting...

SON DANCES IN THE STORM, BLOWING A WHISTLE.

ARTHUR ADJUSTS HIS TV.

ARTHUR Bloody interference

WIFE Here's your tea

ARTHUR See to that bloody telly

ENTER DIVA WHO JOINS SON DANCING

BYRON Nice one, Diva,

I knew you wouldn't desert me

Shine?

SHINE Such a feeling

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

DIVA My heart, my hand

SHINE TAKES HER HAND

SHINE I understand - one tribe

THEY DANCE

BYRON 140 beats and counting

ARTHUR Let me have a go

ARTHUR THUMPS THE TOP OF THE TELLY

BYRON Hardcore jungle techno

145 beats and counting

WIFE It's not the telly, look -

"Please do not adjust your set"

BYRON Rush culture tripping at the speed of light,

150 beats and counting

ARTHUR PULLS BACK THE CURTAIN TO LOOK OUTSIDE

ARTHUR Bloody storm

(NOTICING HIS SON) I knew it, just look at him,

the daft bastard. Walking the bloody dog -

he's crazy dancing on some bloody drug

BYRON Entering virtual reality mode

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

at 160 beats per minute and ready to explode

TELLY EXPLODES. SMOKE. MUSIC FADES.

ADAM AND DIVA JOIN A QUEUE TO A CLUB

DIVA Do you think it's full?

ADAM Dunno, but must be good,

look at all these people

RAVER 1 COMES OUT WEARING A TORCH ON HIS

HELMET AND A FLOURESCENT BIB

ADAM What's it like in there?

RAVER Like an out-of-body experience

ADAM Intense.

INSIDE THE CLUB ADAM AND ORBIT ARE IN THE GENTS,

DIVA AND SHINE ARE IN THE LADIES. IN THE GENTS

SOMEONE IS PAINTING.

ORBIT What the fuck's that, lad?

ARTIST Still life - fruit salad

ADAM Can't you see, it's a metaphor

ORBIT A what for?

ADAM A metaphor for youth

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ARTIST No, it's not, it's a bowl of fruit.

IN THE LADIES

DIVA (LOOKING IN THE MIRROR)

I look like a hawk, what am I going to do?

I don't want to be a hawk,

I want to be a marshmallow

SHINE What you talking about? You look lovely.

I'm lovely, everybody's lovely.

I love this feeling,

it's a licence to be sexy

DIVA Hawk wants to eat everything in sight,

marshmallow wants a shag.

Hawk wants to dominate,

marshmallow wants to be dominated.

Hawk likes to take the lead,

marshmallow longs to lie back

and have it done to her.

We spend so much time keeping men at bay

that when you choose to let down your guard,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

you want to be laid any which way.

It's not cool to admit it, I know,

but for once marshmallow wants Adam

to take control and just stick me with it.

SHINE Yeah, like a voodoo doll.

COMING OUT OF THE GENTS, ADAM IS CARRYING THE
PAINTING.

ADAM They don't seem to understand,

there's times when we have to take the upper hand.

DIVA AND SHINE ARE WAITING OUTSIDE THE CLUB

ORBIT House Party at mine?

DIVA Are you coming, Shine?

SHINE I'll join you later, I just want to sit here for a while.

ORBIT Chill out, I like your style.

ADAM (TO DIVA) I bought you a present,

it's a painting, er, of fruit

DIVA Oh Adam, it's, erm, amazing

THEY EXIT, LEAVING SHINE ALONE SITTING UNDER AN
ARCHWAY OUTSIDE THE CLUB

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

SHINE

Bricks and steel,

not what you'd call obvious with beauty.

A bridge of brick, a bridge of steel

lie together in this bed of industry,

twisted into shapes as weird and wonderful

as the sleeping positions of children.

Under the arches of this viaduct

sole traders are boxed into separate

dormitories with metal shutters

advertising car valet services,

welding repairs, new and used tyres.

An air vent gently snores in the breeze,

wooden pallets are tossed aside

like duvets on a Summer night,

bits of sticky rubber tyres are scattered

around the floor like tissues,

evidence of a relationship

we have with this part of town.

There are signs of an argument

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

in a pointed Gothic window,
where a stone has fractured the glass.
It could be replaced but not repaired,
it will probably be left alone
until it has to be dealt with.
Water seeps from every unit,
this is the sweaty, arse-end of Manchester
hanging out of the bed, well and truly shagged.
A streetlight suddenly flickers
and struggles to stay alight,
like a cigarette after sex.
The car-parks are empty, apart from
the odd reflection of a passing train.
There is no great love to speak of,
but I am comfortable here
amongst these materials:
the water, glass, stone, rubber and wood,
the bricks and the steel.
Tonight I am a woman curiously satisfied

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

by this relationship.

MUSIC. PARTY AT ORBIT'S HIGH-RISE FLAT.

BYRON

The council flat rave in Hulme:

scheduled for demolition in the near future,

neighbouring flats all boarded, secure

against squatters and debtors.

The boards make excellent cabinets

for speakers the size of jet engines.

Cage the balcony for the D.J.'s gear,

knock down the odd internal wall,

drugs and alcohol for sale,

a modest entrance fee

and a monster on a security -

the House Party.

The worst of inner-city squalor

becomes a bed-sit for Bacchus,

a hideout for hedonists,

an illegal club for committed ravers.

Well, what's new?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

For years there's been shabeens

and blues parties in urban ghettos.

ORBIT

(TO ADAM) So there we were stuck on this moor,

in this shagged-out Transit,

half-way to Sheffield, not a soul in sight,

when over the tops comes this flashing blue light.

There I am, pockets full of pills,

well, you don't think of police until it's too late.

Anyway, when the motor checked out as legit,

he could see we were desperate.

"Jump in," he says, "I'll give you a lift,"

as if we were best of friends.

He dropped us at the venue

and I went straight to the bogs

and threw up from both ends.

ADAM

Great story, turn up the bass.

HE FINISHES HIS BEER.

If I catch this can, I'll have another.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

HE THROWS THE CAN INTO THE AIR AND A POLICEMAN
CATCHES IT.

POLICEMAN You're knicked, piss-face.

ORBIT LEGS IT. ADAM IS ARRESTED.

AT THE STATION ADAM IS IN A CELL WITH ANOTHER
INMATE.

INMATE You got any pins, man?

Works, needles, man?

ADAM I hate that shit.

Why have they put me in this cess-pit
with a smackhead?

INMATE We're both junkies, man

ADAM Are we knackers,
I'm not a fucking junkie

INMATE Right, you were just caught with a dozen e's

ADAM Personal use

INMATE Class A drug, dude, just like heroin

ADAM Well it shouldn't be

INMATE You be sure to tell that to the judge.

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

A spreadsheet, that's what you need

ADAM What the fuck?

INMATE Take a look

HE PRESENTS ADAM WITH A SPREADSHEET

Half a gramme per day keeps me happy

which costs me £40. So my weekly

target is £280.

Income: £30 per week from the S.S.

which means I have to raise £250, cash.

Options open to me? One: prostitution -

not really my thing, maybe in desperation.

Two: dealing - too much temptation.

Three: robbing - the best option -

always go for the easiest targets.

Stolen goods sell on the black market

for a third of retail value,

which means I have to steal

£750 worth of goods every week

ADAM Are you for real?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

INMATE £36000 every year to feed my habit

ADAM You could get a methadone script

INMATE But it's not real smack, is it?

ADAM Where the fuck did you learn to talk like that?

INMATE Probation - I took a business course

on self-motivation so you can be

a more efficient junkie

ADAM It's addiction, an uncontrollable need

INMATE We're drughogs, It's just plain greed,

we get into this mess

because we do it to excess

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

excess xs pump excess xs pump

ORBIT'S FLAT

ORBIT It could've been me

LIBERTY Next time it will be you

DIVA Thanks for your concern, you two

LIBERTY He'll be right enough, Diva

DIVA Twelve e's, that's supplying

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

LIBERTY They know he wasn't dealing

 he'll get off with a suspended sentence

DIVA He should have had more sense

ORBIT Watch what you say on the phone, Diva,

 they'll be onto us, they monitor

 every call in Greater Manchester

LIBERTY Don't be silly

ORBIT You wait and see

 they can't use it as evidence

 but they get to know who is busy

CHEETHAM HILL SNARLERS BURST IN AND HOLD A GUN
TO ORBIT'S HEAD

CH1 Where's your stash?

LIBERTY Tell them, Orbit

ORBIT It's over there

CH2 And the cash?

THEY TAKE THE GEAR AND THE CASH

CH2 He was in the club last night

ORBIT You've got the wrong guy

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

LIBERTY Please, he's not lying

CH1 We know you get your gear from Gary the Gob

ORBIT This is not my league, man,

I'm just scratching a meagre living

CH1 If you see Gary the Gob

be sure to tell him who robbed you

CH2 and tell him we've got his sandwiches

CH1 AND CH2 LEAVE

CHORUS Trial - sshh, pass it on

where? sshh pass it on

when? sshh pass it on

BYRON Don't tell everyone

they'll all want to come

COURTROOM

Let's talk about what's really on trial:

in 1990 the government filed

an Increased Penalties Entertainment Bill

to curb the growth in warehouse parties.

Now you can get six months jail

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

and a £20,000 fine

for organising a good time.

So why is having fun against the law?

Let's ask the politicians what they stand for?

Is it the dancing you object to?

POLITICIAN No

BYRON Is it the music you abhor?

POLITICIAN It isn't my sort of thing, but no

BYRON Is it people having a good time?

POLITICIAN Is that what you call it?

BYRON Is it the money?

POLITICIAN It's a crime

BYRON Or is it the drugs?

POLITICIAN Of course

BYRON Have you ever tried any?

POLITICIAN Off the record?

BYRON This is a theatre not a court

POLITICIAN A little cannabis once at university

BYRON And?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

POLITICIAN Over-rated really,

not that it's any of your business.

We don't have a problem with cannabis -

we have tried to decriminalise possession

without the public getting the wrong impression,

The harder drugs are a different kettle of fish

BYRON Have you tried anything "harder"?

POLITICIAN No, but -

BYRON So you don't actually know what you prefer?

POLITICIAN I don't have to jump under a bus

to know for sure it hurts

BYRON People don't jump under buses for pleasure

we do this for fun not self-destruction

POLITICIAN Someone has to pick up the moral tab

BYRON Ah, the moral tab, the most equivocal

pill of them all.

Could my first witness be called?

ENTER HIPPIE WITH BOWL OF FRUIT ON HIS HEAD.

BYRON You are, are you not, a bowl of fruit?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

HIPPIE This is true

BYRON And is it also true that recently

you have been found in the company

of illegal substances and at raves

and clubs up and down the country

there are smiling oranges wearing dark shades

to hide their enlarged pupils

and that giant inflatable bananas

have appeared on the terraces

amongst thousands of football fans

on an away-trip from reality,

that, in fact, fruit has become synonymous

with l.s.d., amphetamine and ecstasy?

HIPPIE So what's all the fuss?

BYRON Hasn't your behaviour been immoral?

HIPPIE Listen I also sit on dining-room tables

in respectable detached houses

between the fish-tank and best crystal

where children talk with plums in their mouths .

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

I can be goldfish or piranha,
you can invest me with good or bad
right or wrong, ugliness or beauty,
I'm just a bowl of fruit

BYRON Thank you

EXIT HIPPIE

POLITICIAN May I?

POLITICIAN USHERS BYRON TOWARDS THE WITNESS
BOX

POLITICIAN Would you be so kind?

Ecstasy: it's estimated
that 500,000 people are using it

BYRON Such flattery

POLITICIAN It makes the sixties look like an experiment

BYRON So what's really on trial is not Adam

but me, the big e, ecstasy?

POLITICIAN You prefer to be known as a recreational drug?

BYRON That's right. I have my clinical uses

but most people take me for enjoyment

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

POLITICIAN Not because they are dependent?

BYRON If you enjoy something, there is a tendency
toward excess which inevitably
can lead to some difficulties

POLITICIAN And you claim not to be lethal?

How do explain the sixteen deaths, none of which were brought
on by excess?

BYRON I can't. No one has made a proper study

but over five years, it's not bad odds actually

POLITICIAN Tell tht to the victims' families

BYRON I don't claim to be entirely free of risk,

if you have a history of heart disorder

you shouldn't mess

POLITICIAN I call a mother and daughter as a family witness

for the prosecution

ENTER MOTHER AND DAUGHTER 1 OF FIRST FAMILY
WHO JOIN THE POLITICIAN.

BYRON I call a father and daughter as my witness

for the defence

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

FATHER AND DAUGHTER OF SECOND FAMILY WHO JOIN
BYRON.

MOTHER The priest came to the hospital twice

to administer last rites,

her convulsions were so intense that one ankle

almost touched the back of her head,

she cried out like a wounded animal

and fell into a coma for four days

FATHER In this house we're all on one:

I have a wife and teenage daughter -

DAUGHTER 2 Dad, I'm eighteen -

FATHER An ordinary family really,

we started for very different reasons

DAUGHTER 1 I borrowed £15 off my mum

MOTHER She bought a tablet with my money

DAUGHTER 1 I was dancing like mad as we always do

when I came over all funny

and staggered to the door.

I was paranoid that everyone

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

would think I was a beer monster
so I went back to the dance-floor
and collapsed. The bouncer carried me
out, called an ambulance
and left me in the street

FATHER

My marriage was on the rocks,
we'd tried everything
from relate to alternative healing
when I read this article -

DAUGHTER 2

In my magazine -

FATHER

about an elderly couple in America
who were given ecstasy
and swore it had saved their marriage

DAUGHTER 2

Mum and dad knew we were into raving,
they'd always tried to be understanding

FATHER

We never did any of that at their age

DAUGHTER 2

What would you say if your own dad
asked you to sort him out with a tab?

DAUGHTER 1

My eyes were on stalks, it was awful

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

like that drugs ad in the hospital,
the nurses gave me a really hard time.

I was able to tell them what I'd taken
which probably saved my life

My friends had the same tab and they were fine
but I didn't take a rest or a drink of water

FATHER At first my wife didn't know what to think

DAUGHTER 2 Can't be any worse than valium

FATHER My wife and I talked openly, secrets
and inhibitions became confidences,
making love was extraordinary,
we were silk and sackcloth
with a licence to be sexy

MOTHER The doctor warned us that if she survived
she might be brain-damaged.

When she came 'round do you know what she said?

First question after four days in a coma -

"Does this mean I can't take e anymore?"

These people who sell drugs are scum,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

they're no better than murderers,

they should be hung

DAUGHTER 2 Mum and dad have got into house music

FATHER We always did love dancing

DAUGHTER 2 Sometimes we all go out raving together

as a family, I think it's lovely

POLITICIAN CALLS A DOCTOR AS A WITNESS

POLITICIAN Doctor, you are a recognised medical expert,

what is your opinion?

DOCTOR Heatstroke is the real problem

brought on by excessive dancing and loss

of fluids in a hot environment, made worse

by the complementary effects of ecstasy

BYRON CALLS A PSYCHOTHERAPIST

BYRON Doctor, as a Psychotherapist,

what are the effects of ecstasy?

THERAPIST It increases the serotonin level

in the brain. Serotonin is a chemical

which affects emotional stability,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

it's what makes you feel sociable and happy

boosted by e you feel euphoric

POLITICIAN How dangerous is heatstroke?

DOCTOR It can cause convulsions and collapse,

internal bleeding, kidney failure,

respiratory failure, liver

and neurological damage and death

BYRON (TO DOCTOR) What can be done to protect

your physical health?

DOCTOR Drink lots of water not alcohol,

stay cool and take rests

POLITICIAN (TO THERAPIST) Does the euphoria, by the same token,

lead to paranoia and anxiety -

so-called e casualties?

THERAPIST Persistent long-term use of e

depletes your stock of serotonin

and leads to clinical depression

unless sufficient time is given

for the body to replenish its reserves

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

BYRON What we really need at clubs and raves

 is quality control

ADAM APPROAHES THE DOCTOR

ADAM Here y'are mate, I've bought

 these rhubarb and custard pills,

 can you tell me what's in them?

DOCTOR There's no e that's for sure,

 it's lemsip and ketamine:

 the lemsip will ease your throat if it's sore,

 the ketamine could anaesthetise a horse

ADAM Nice one, doc, that's saved me from a bad dose

EXIT DOCTOR. ENTER POLICEMAN 2

POLICEMAN 2 Hang on, we can't allow this sort of service,

 these drugs are illegal if you hadn't noticed

BYRON This is what we're up against

POLICEMAN 2 We're not killjoys but if one youngster

 can be denied access to drugs

 that will hook him for the rest of his life,

 then it will be worth it

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

BYRON We're talking recreational use. What right

do you have to deny that, you fuckwit?

Oh no, not killjoys, just turn close down clubs,

prevent d.j.'s from entering towns like Rochdale

and recommend that a Lake District cave

be blown-up after it was used for a rave.

This is people having a good time,

it's not the bloody Miners' Strike.

Do you really want a return to Saturday nights

with streets full of beer-monsters fighting?

POLICEMAN 2 It still goes on, nothing's changed

BYRON Not among ravers, that's not their game

POLICEMAN 2 Using one drug leads to using another,

drugs are dangerous

BYRON Yes they are but so is the Law:

if you treat people like criminals

they will act like criminals.

De-criminalising drugs would poison

fewer punters, kill fewer dealers,

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

create less gangsters, reduce prostitution,
reduce the number of people in prison,
reduce bribery of policemen and the fact is
we would raise more public revenue in taxes

POLICEMAN 2 Which smacks of dirty money

BYRON £11.3 billion from tobacco
and alcohol goes into the Treasury

POLICEMAN 2 That's different, they're legal

BYRON There is an estimated £18 billion
of laundered drugs money circulating
in the banking system. Should we
leave it the gangsters, do you think
or return it to our economy?

POLICEMAN 2 Crime and drugs will always be linked.
I've heard the arguments before,
I know what you're going to say:
"There will come a time when so many people
use these drugs, we'll have to make them legal" -
you're naive if you think it's that easy

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

BYRON I don't really give a damn about other drugs,

I just want you to legalise ecstasy

EXIT POLICEMAN

POLITICIAN I thought we were here to decide

whether this young man is a dealer?

ADAM I'll plead guilty to possession not supply

BYRON Why do you take e's?

ADAM 'Cause David Mellor M.P. said

alcohol and football don't mix

so we thought we'd give these a try

BYRON So all twelve e's were for personal use?

ADAM Yeah

POLITICIAN In one night?

ADAM Wise up, there's enough there for a fortnight;

don't look so surprised,

there's some could hog that lot in a weekend

POLITIVIAN Are you or are you not a dealer?

ADAM Are you for real?

I hate that word. Look, they call ecstasy

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

the truth drug; why not let me

take one, then you can ask me?

BYRON

Let's hear from a real dealer, shall we?

ENTER ORBIT

ORBIT

Why is it dealers are always seen

as the scourge of society?

Even amongst users - the hypocrisy.

How many of yous in a working day

have had a gun pointed at your head,

your business and profits stolen

and no insurance premium?

The £500 wad is the tool of my trade;

without it I'm out of the game

until I can raise it again.

They know you can't complain:

last time it was the cops at a festival

where everyone's on the make.

Plain-clothes stole my stash and my stake -

£3000, my best weekend ever, bundled

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

me into a van and dumped me in a field

twenty miles away, telling me how lucky

I was not to have been busted;

I was wearing a pair of shorts,

no shoes, nothing, not even a compass.

This is the cutting edge of capitalism:

no pension here, not even a long-term career.

If you work the same patch they get to know you,

if you move about you don't know

when and where you'll get screwed;

but ask any serious party-person

what it's like when you're out for a mad weekend

and you don't have supplies in hand?

You feel a proper sad-bastard.

The North of England has always been

into dancing to a driving beat, necking drugs.

All the small dealers I meet in the clubs

neck drugs and sell to support their lifestyle;

well, you can't hold down a regular job

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

if you're buzzing to fuck. A reliable
small-time dealer is like a suburban
wine-club organiser who buys
a few extra bottles for friends
to keep his habit cheap and prides
himself on satisfying his clients;
we're the only quality control
'cause we have to try the products first,
including new ones. We could be necking
anything from embalming fluid to turps.

I don't sell poison
to impressionable young children;

ORBIT & ADAM I don't feel like a criminal,

I'm not a bad person

EXIT ORBIT

POLITICIAN

I've heard enough;
drug-dealers are not cultural martyrs.
You young people make me laugh,
you over-estimate your own importance;

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

I've had the same arguments for years

with teddy-boys, hippies, punks.

Popstars and d.j.'s thinking they're Mozart;

Ravers are just next in line

to disappear up their very own

e-is-for-ephemeral arse.

I rest my case

JUDGE Have the Defendant brought before me so that he may hear the
verdict of the court.

ADAM STANDS BEFORE THE JUDGE.

ELSEWHERE CHEETHAM HILL SNARLERS 1 & 2 DRAG IN
GARY THE GOB AND C.H.2 HOLDS A GUN TO HIS HEAD.

C.H.1 IS CARRYING A PICNIC BASKET.

C.H.2 Here y'are, Gary, this is a nice little spot,
we've prepared a little picnic for you.

C.H.1 LAYS OUT THE PICNIC

JUDGE You are charged with Possession with Intent to Supply a
Class A drug. In the eyes of the Law, it is a serious offence
which must not go unpunished. How do you plead?

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

ADAM Not Guilty.

C.H.1 There's Champagne - sorry, no straw, Gary. And some fruit -
don't worry I'll peel it for you. And look - sandwiches.

C.H.1 FORCE-FEEDS GARY, SHOVING SANDWICHES INTO
HIS MOUTH AND POURING CHAMPAGNE OVER HIM.

And for desert, my associate has prepared a little something
special. Bon appetit.

C.H.2 PUSHES THE BARREL OF THE GUN INTO GARY'S
MOUTH.

JUDGE The Jury has found you Guilty as charged. I am passing a
sentence which I hope will give you time to reflect on the nature
of your offence so that I do not see you in front of me ever
again - Prison for three years.

C.H.2 PULLS THE TRIGGER AND EXECUTES GARY.

CHORUS We built a house

house house

a house of sounds

house house

a house of lights

house house

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

a party house

house house

a house party

house house

to mark the end of the century

to bring the century back to life

BYRON

After the Black Death devastated

Europe in the 14th Century

raving broke out on an unprecedented

scale as people danced until they dropped,

necking mouldy narcotic ryebread.

A hardcore of manic dancers wandered

from town to town across Europe,

until the authorities

extinguished the bonfires

and alienated us from Nature.

At the turn of the 20th Century,

between the bricks and the steel,

steam is blowing from a pressure valve

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

as the need to neck drugs and dance

to the driving beat explodes

into partying across Europe.

The need to rave is an irresistible force,

the need to celebrate our existence

DIVA

I've tapped into a tribe of Travellers,

we're technomads, a paradox

of technology and nature.

After what they did to Adam

I can't play their game anymore.

I've packed in my job at the hospital,

it's not enough to disappear at weekends.

We've got everything we need,

after all , the audience are the event;

at least I'll be closer to the thunderstorms.

We'll be moving from one festival

to the next, maybe even creating

our own; who knows what's possible?

I've started painting...

"Excess XS" by Kevin Fegan

CHORUS Feel feel virtually real

feel feel virtually real

BYRON As the limelight fades on me

somewhere near the 21st Century,

e is for end and I will retire

to take my place with the other letters

like h and c and l.s.d.

There are plenty more like me:

the future is a queue, designer perfect,

of drugs as varied as the alphabet.

This is not intelligent

this is sensational

CHORUS Excess xs pump excess xs pump

excess xs pump excess xs pump

MUSIC. PLAY ENDS.